Computer Closet Collection

Apple Lisa 2/10

See below for specifications and information on this system.

Specifications and information

Key Dates:	Announced January 1983 Ships June 1983 Renamed Macintosh XL January 1985 Discontinued July 1986 (although not formally marketed since April 1985)
Original Price:	$9995
CPU:	Motorola 68000, 5 MHz
Memory:	1MB RAM (2MB installed in this unit), 2MB ROM
Operating System:	Lisa Office System
Display:	Built-in 12" monochrome monitor, 720x364 resolution
Input/Output:	Built-in 400K single-sided floppy drive; internal 10MB "Widget" hard drive; mouse port, serial port
Bus:	Lisa bus
Other Items in Collection:	Documentation
Items Needed:	Original Lisa Office System diskettes unserialized

"Lisa" stood for Local Integrated Software Architecture, but the clever acronym came after the fact, since the Lisa was reportedly named for one of the engineer's daughters.

The Apple Lisa is the father of the Macintosh, and was announced a year earlier than the Mac 128.

While many consider the Lisa to have introduced the graphical user interface (GUI), the Lisa was just one of several machines that attempted to copy the original Xerox Star, a computer developed at Xerox's Palo Alto Research Center (PARC) in the seventies. Another similar, failed attempt was the Corvus Concept.

Physically, the Lisa was definitely a pioneer of the "tool-free" chassis. The front and back panels pop right off, giving easy access to the interior of the machine. This is somewhat ironic in that the Macintosh not only required a screwdriver to open, it required a special extra-long Torx screwdriver that became known as the "Mac screwdriver." The "tool-free" type of chassis didn't reach mainstream popularity until IBM's Personal System/2 machines in the late 1980s.

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Last modified: August 23, 1998